

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed June 12, 2008, has been carefully considered together with each of the references cited therein. The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. The amendments made herein are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present Application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

CLAIM STATUS

Claims 1-16 and 18-31 are pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 9 have been amended while claim 7 has been cancelled with the subject matter of such claim imported into claim 1. Claims 12-16 and 18-31 have been cancelled as being directed to a non-elected invention.

Election/Restriction

The Office has restricted the Application into the following groups under 35 USC § 121 and 372:

- I. Group I, claims 1-11;
- II. Group II: claims 12-16; and
- III. Group III, claims 18-31.

Applicants confirm its election of Group I, claims 1-11, without traverse. Claims 12-16 and 18-31 have been cancelled without prejudice to filling a divisional thereupon.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hartman et al. This rejection is respectfully overcome.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the metal sulphide is present in an amount of from 0.05 to 3% by weight. Basis for this amendment can be found, *inter alia*, on page 5, lines 23-25 of the Specification.

In contrast, Hartman et al. disclose an amount of 20-70% of "white and/or other light colored pigment", ie. zinc oxide. See Hartman, column 2, lines 46-49. In view thereof, it is respectfully contended that the instantly claimed invention as recited in claim 1, and all claims depending there from, are not anticipated by Hartman et al.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Schoen et al. (2002/0192448). This rejection is respectfully overcome.

Amended, independent claim 1 now recites the limitation of now cancelled claim 7. Schoen et al. does not teach the polymeric material as being a resin selected from the group consisting of those which are listed by Applicants in independent claim 1. It is, therefore, respectfully contended that independent claim 1, and all claims depending there from, are no longer anticipated by Schoen et al.

Claims 1-4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Knight et al. (US 4267229). This rejection is respectfully overcome.

As stated above with respect to rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4 over Schoen et al., the subject matter of now cancelled claim 7 has been imported into independent claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully contended that the instantly claimed invention can not be anticipated by Knight et al.

In view of the above, it is respectfully contended that all of the 35 USC § 102 rejections have been overcome.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 6 and 8-11 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schoen et al. as applied to claims 1-2 and 4 above. This rejection is respectfully overcome. As stated above with respect to the § 102 rejection, the subject matter of now cancelled claim 7 has been imported into claim

1. Such subject matter defines a Markush group of polymeric materials that can be used in the current invention. The constituents of such group are nowhere found in Schoen et al. For at least this reason, it is respectfully contended that the currently claimed invention and dependent claims 6 and 8-11 can not be made obvious by Schoen et al.

In view thereof, it is respectfully contended that the 35 USC § 103 rejection has been overcome. In consequence, Applicants courteously solicit reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, he is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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